

Beyond the Science of Invasive Species

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Producer Perspective

- Response to an invasive pest driven by economics – inherent conflict of interests
 - Risk posed by pest
 - Consequences of pest response



Regulatory Perspective

- Best available science for suppression/elimination
 - A great deal to learn
- Attempt to minimize economic disruption:
 - Minimally in protocol
 - Significantly in implementation
 - Complicated by state involvement



Legal Perspective

- Council's role at both state and federal levels
- International element – the “small world” affect
- Role of Politics: What is “good science?”
- Who pays?



Don't
Mess
with
Texas









Texas Basics

- Neo-tropical environment
- Major importer and getting bigger
- Working both sides of the border





Recent Texas Experiences

Mex-fly Background

-  Debate over origin
-  Mango alarms
-  Chapote heaven
-  New faces
 - Oblique
 - Serpentina
-  “Texas Protocol”
-  Leaky border

Arizona/California response to Mex-fly

-  Routine fumigation may be expanded
-  Need to vigorously enforce (packing shed slip-ups).

Visit to Arizona – reason prevails on both sides.



Obliqua/Serpentina Experience

- Obliqua: Crucial lack of data
- Serpentina: Questions on protocol
- Regulatory science cannot be flexible
– must have data.





Segue to the Present

Mex-fly status

-  “Zone 6”
-  Extensional “Texas Protocol” to interior Mexico
-  Fumigation for all shipments

Serpentina Status

-  Quarantine winding down
-  Bait spray option

Must resist tendency to politicize phytosanitary standards

Feds need to prioritize domestic interests

